

WI-277
Hobart J. Willing House
Nanticoke
Private

1901-02

The Hobart J. Willing house is an extremely well preserved example of turn of the twentieth-century Victorian village architecture. The two-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame house was erected in 1901-02, and its period features remain largely undisturbed. The symmetrical five-bay facade is defined by a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows that are sheltered by a turned post front porch embellished with turned spindles and delicately sawn brackets. Centered on the porch roof is a cross gable covered with fishscale shingles. The main house has a cross gable as well and a pointed arch attic window is framed by a field of fishscale shingles. The peak of the cross gable is embellished with a cross-stick decoration. Typical of many turn of the twentieth century houses, the eaves are extended and the rafter ends are exposed. Piercing the gable ends are tall brick chimney stacks finished with corbeled caps. Complementing the intact exterior finishes are largely intact interior spaces with most of the original woodwork surviving in fine condition. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall.

The chain of title research traces the ownership of this lot back to Hobart J. Willing, who purchased a 6 7/8-acre parcel of land along the county road from Emma P. Douglas of Baltimore City. He paid \$400 for the property in 1892. Willing family tradition credits him with financing the construction of the house in 1901-02.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Hobart J. Willing House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-277

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance
1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-277

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hobart J. Willing House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 20460 Nanticoke Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Nanticoke ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name William R. and Claire S. Potts

street & number 20460 Nanticoke Road telephone no.:

city, town Nanticoke state and zip code Maryland 21840

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 63, P. 91-1
liber 1288

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 493

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-277

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Captain Hobart J. Willing house stands at 20460 Nanticoke Road in the community of Nanticoke, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay, cross-gabled frame dwelling faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dated by family tradition to 1901-02, the two-and-a-half story, center hall, single-pile frame house is supported by an infilled brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay dining room wing, which has been extended since 1992 with a two-story kitchen addition. A frame garage joins the house on the lot.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical five facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The front door is partially glazed and topped by a two light transom. The adjacent windows are flanked by louvered shutters. Stretching across the front of the house is a cross-gabled, hip roof porch supported on turned posts and decorated with sawn corner brackets and rows of spindles under the eaves. The center cross gable is covered with fishscale shingles, and the eaves are open with the rafter ends exposed. The second floor is lighted by five evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows and each window retains louvered shutters hung on original hardware. The cross gable is pierced by a pointed arch window, and the peak of the eave features a cross stick decoration. The eaves to the roof are open and the rafter ends are exposed.

The north and south gable ends are largely alike with pairs of two-over-two sash windows flanking the interior end brick chimneys, which are finished with corbelled caps. Small two-over-two sash windows light the attic. The gable ends of the roof are covered with fishscale shingles, and the extended eaves are finished with a decorative bargeboard.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay wing that gives the house a tee shape. The rear wing is extended on the south side by a partially enclosed shed roof porch that served as the former kitchen. The wing is lighted by two-over-two sash windows on the first and second floors, and the eaves to the steeply pitched roof are extended with the rafter ends exposed. The rear wing has been extended with a modern two-story, flat roofed addition that incorporates a new kitchen and a main bedroom suite. The flat roof is trimmed with a rooftop balustrade.

The interior of the turn of the twentieth century house has retained much of its original Victorian finishes. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall. A bold turned newel post along with the series of turned balusters support a molded handrail. The closed stringer is molded as well. Beaded edge door surrounds frame four-panel doors that open into the adjacent rooms. Another staircase, which is enclosed, rises in the northwest corner of the rear wing.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-277

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1901–02 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Hobart J. Willing house is an extremely well preserved example of turn of the twentieth-century Victorian village architecture. The two-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame house was erected in 1901-02, and its period features remain largely undisturbed. The symmetrical five-bay facade is defined by a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows that are sheltered by a turned post front porch embellished with turned spindles and delicately sawn brackets. Centered on the porch roof is a cross gable covered with fishscale shingles. The main house has a cross gable as well and a pointed arch attic window is framed by a field of fishscale shingles. The peak of the cross gable is embellished with a cross-stick decoration. Typical of many turn of the twentieth century houses, the eaves are extended and the rafter ends are exposed. Piercing the gable ends are tall brick chimney stacks finished with corbeled caps. Complementing the intact exterior finishes are largely intact interior spaces with most of the original woodwork surviving in fine condition. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall.

Due to its well preserved condition, the house deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies building of high architectural and historical interest. The Hobart J. Willing house contributes to the nineteenth-century character of the village of Nanticoke.

The chain of title research traces the ownership of this lot back to Hobart J. Willing, who purchased a 6 7/8-acre parcel of land along the county road from Emma P. Douglas of Baltimore City. He paid \$400 for the property in 1892.(1) Willing family tradition credits him with financing the construction of the house in 1901-02.

1 Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 11/380, 6/2/1892, Wicomico County Courthouse.

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PS-2746

WI-277
Captain Hobart J. Willing House
20460 Nanticoke Road
Nanticoke, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 63, Parcel 91

1288/493 Phyllis Hatton Harris
 Deborah Harris Underhill

to

3/27/1992 William R. Potts
 Claire S. Potts

Lot 1 1.611 acres

MSB 1238/819 Phyllis Hatton Harris, Personal Representative of Estate
 of Gladys E. Willing

to

11/9/1990 Phyllis Hatton Harris
 Deborah Harris Underhill

Whereas Gladys E. Willing died 1/12/1990,
ACL 10/627, Estate No. 10,365

JWTS 660/103 Betty N. Bounds

to

10/10/1967 Gladys E. Willing
 Georgia R. Willing

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Hobart J. Willing House
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JWTS 660/98

Gladys E. Willing
Alberta W. Willing
Georgia R. Willing

to

10/9/1967

Betty N. Bounds

The above described parcels are a part of the same lands which were devised by the said Hobart J. Willing, JAH 2/196, to Hobart Edgar Willing, Gladys E. Willing, and Georgia R. Willing, the Said Hobart Edgar Willing having died intestate 6/26/1967

JTT 11/380

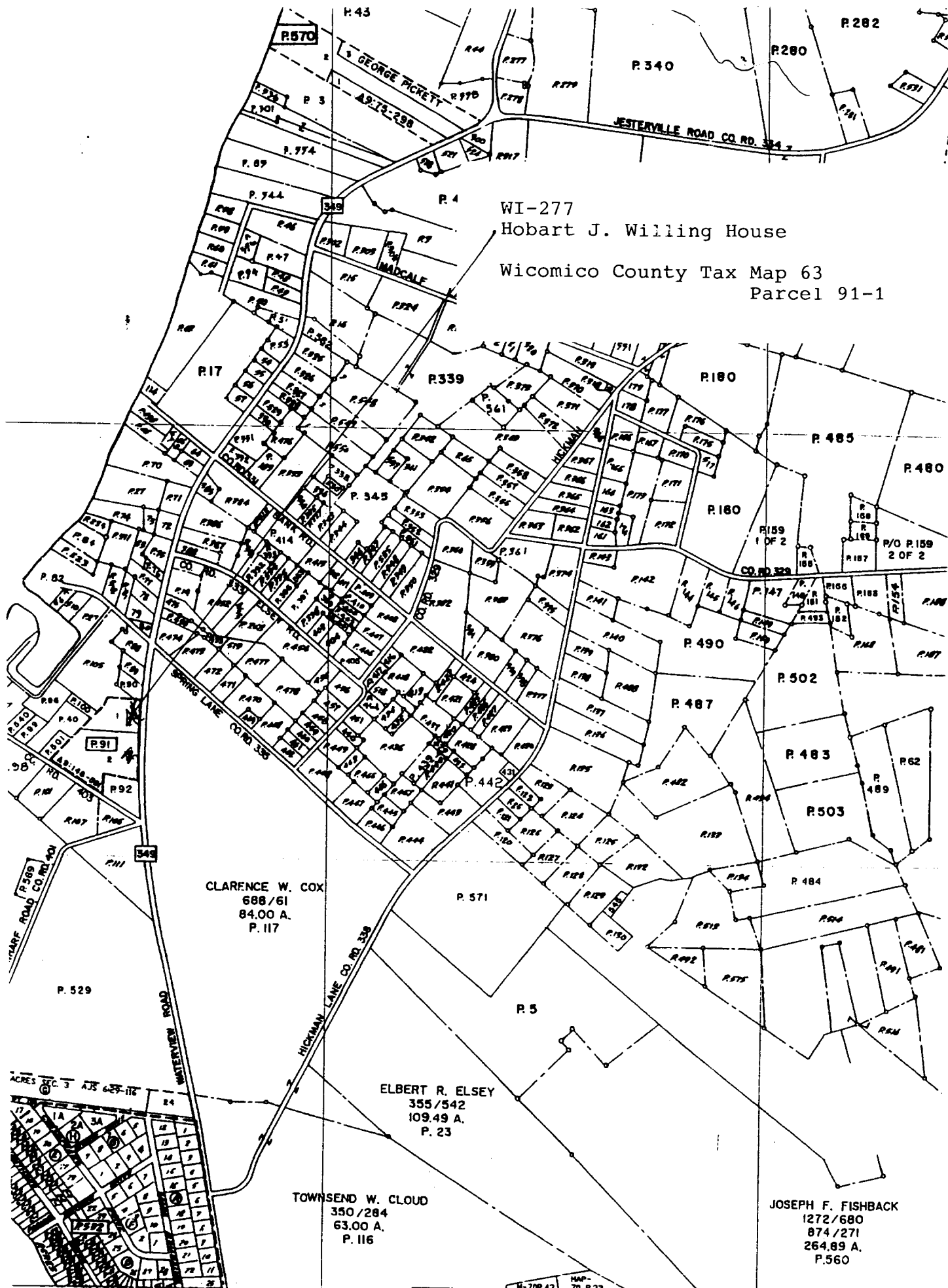
Emma P. Douglas, Baltimore City

to

6/2/1892

Hobart J. Willing

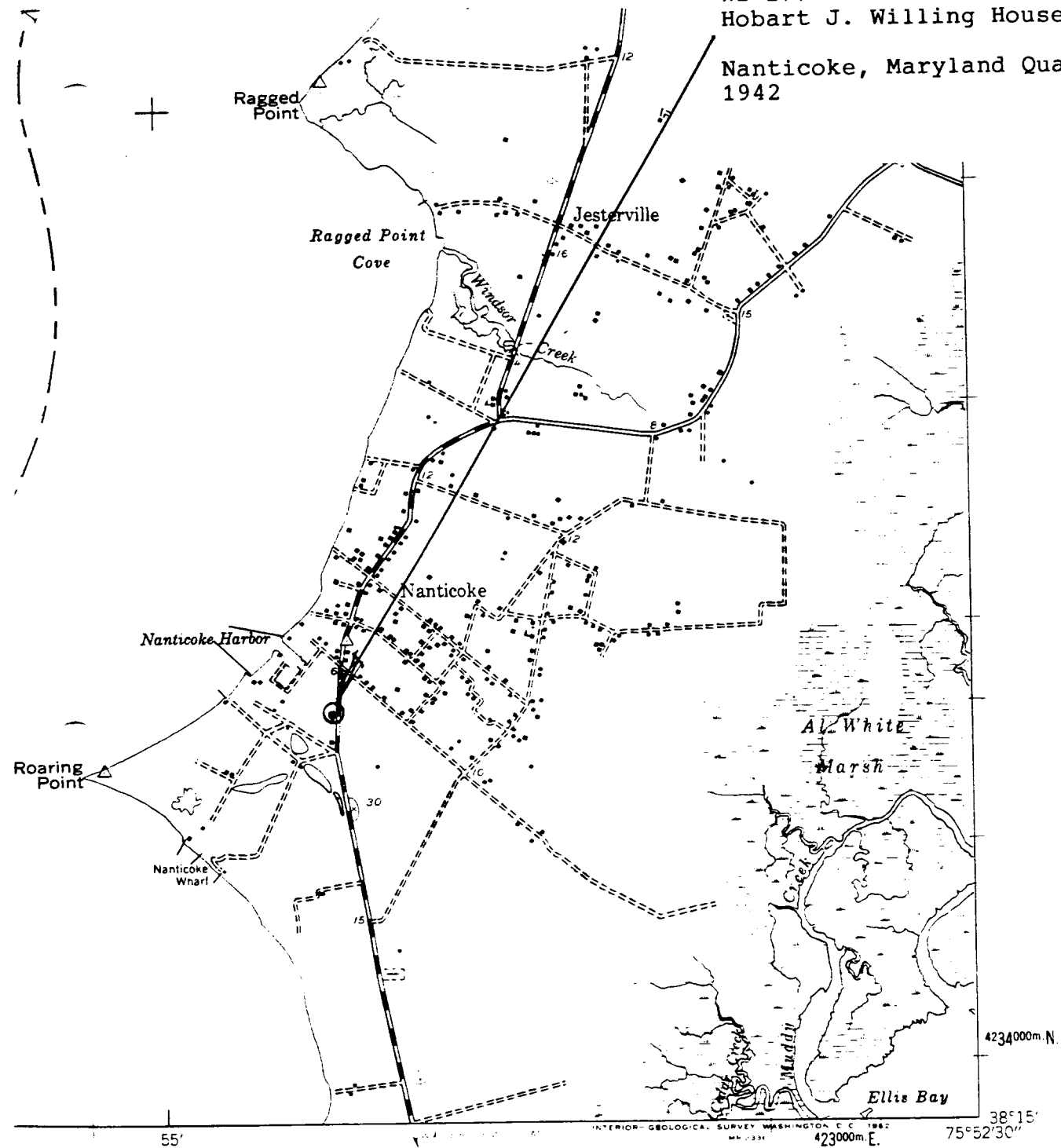
\$400 6 7/8 acres



WI-277

Hobart J. Willing House

Nanticoke, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Medium duty

Light duty

Unimproved dirt

State Route

NANTICOKE, MD.

SW/4 NANTICOKE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3815—W7552.5/7.5

1942

MARYLAND
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

QUEST



141-277

Green Harbor Wharfe House

Norfolk, Western County, N.H.

6/96, The Town of Green Harbor

Wharfe House

1926 The Historical Society



11-77

CALVIN HARBOR, WISCONSIN

NANTUCKET, MASS. Bay View, Mass.

EAST LEBANON, OHIO

6/96, PA. TOURIST, PHOT. APP.

PA. TOURIST, PHOT. APP.